GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3744
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2006
ILO ON CHILD LABOUR
Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Labour Organisation (ILO) has recently called for zero tolerance of violence against the child labourers and adolescents legally employed world wide as reported in The Hindu dated November 22, 2006;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government proposes to take effective steps to prevent children from working with any establishment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): Government has noted the contents of the News item published in the Hindu on 22.11.2006. As such, Government is committed to elimination of child labour in phased manner beginning with those engaged in most hazardous occupations and processes first.

(c) & (d): Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits employment of children in 15 occupations and 57 Processes and it regulates the working conditions in occupations which are not declared as hazardous. Sufficient deterrent provisions already exist in the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 for persons violating the provisions of the Act. The Act provides that any persons who employs any child in contravention of the provisions of the Act, is liable for punishment with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than three months, but which may extend to one year or with fine, which shall not be less than Rs. 10,000/- but which may extend to Rs. 20,000/- or both. Instructions are issued, from time to time, to the State Governments who are the appropriate Government, for the strict enforcement of the same.